

THE
IMPORTANCE
OF THE
AFRICAN COMPANYS
FORTS and SETTLEMENTS
CONSIDERED, &c.

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IMPORTANCE

AMERICAN COMPANY

FOR THE SALE OF

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THE
IMPORTANCE
OF
EFFECTUALLY SUPPORTING *523.64*
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THE
Royal AFRICAN COMPANY
OF
ENGLAND

Impartially considered ;

SHEWING,

That a FREE and OPEN TRADE to *Africa*, and
the SUPPORT and PRESERVATION of the *British*
COLONIES and PLANTATIONS in *America*,

DEPEND UPON

Maintaining the FORTS and SETTLEMENTS, RIGHTS and PRIVILEGES belonging to that CORPORATION, against the Encroachments of the *French*, and all other *Foreign Rivals* in that Trade.

The SECOND EDITION.

With a *New and more Correct Map than any hitherto published*, shewing the Situation of the several *European Forts and Settlements* in that Country.

In a LETTER to a MEMBER of the HOUSE of COMMONS.

L O N D O N :

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[Price One Shilling]

IMPORTANCE

W. Musgrave!

the support and preservation of the trade
COLONIES and PROTECTORATES



...CORPORATION, against the ...
...and all other foreign firms in that Trade.

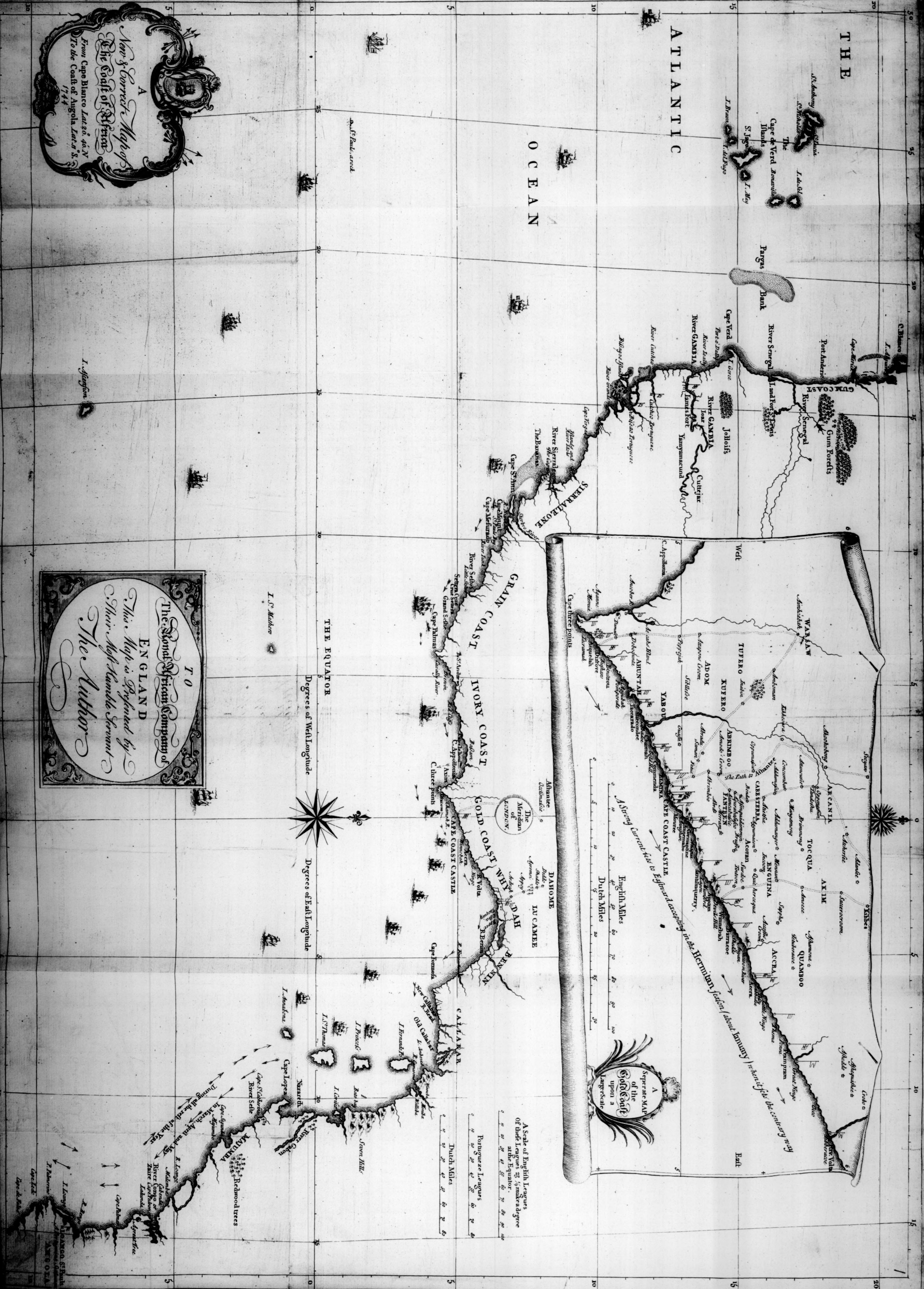
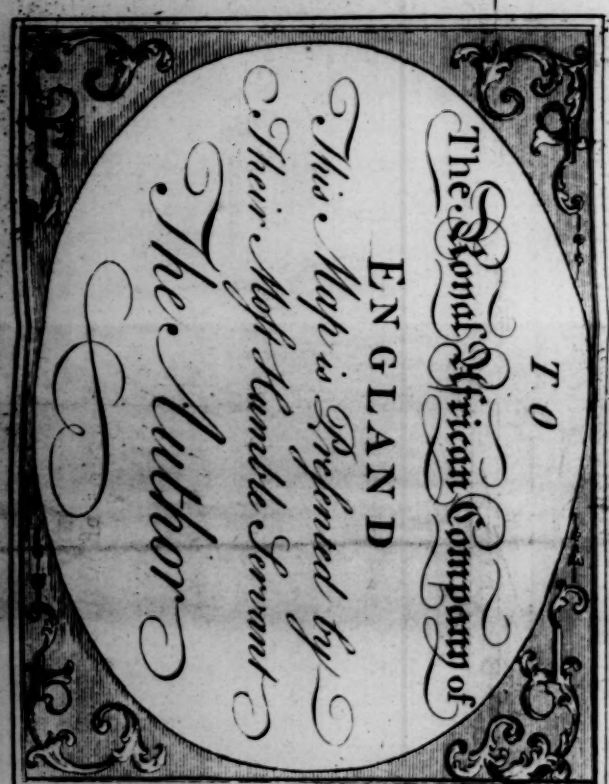
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THE
IMPORTANCE
 OF
 EFFECTUALLY SUPPORTING
 THE
ROYAL AFRICAN COMPANY
 OF
ENGLAND

Impartially consider'd, &c.

SIR,



T being the Sense of the *Royal African Company of England*, in Conformity to *That* of the Nation in general, that the Trade to the Coast of *Africa* ought always to continue *free* and *open*, for the Benefit of all his Majesty's Subjects trading to those Parts ; and also, that the Trade and Navigation to *Africa* in general should

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never

never be charged with any Tax, Duty, Burthen or other Incumbrance whatever for the Maintainance and Preservation of the *Forts* and *Settlements*, belonging to the said Company: it is to be presumed that no Well-wisher to his Country, can object against the Reasonableness and Necessity of the Publick's enabling the Company effectually to support and maintain the *British Possessions, Rights* and *Privileges* in *Africa*; in order the more effectually to preserve this invaluable Branch of Trade *free* and *open* to all His Majesty's Subjects, against such of our most formidable Rivals, who already possess, or are endeavouring to encrease the Number of their *Forts* and *Settlements* on the same Coast.

Should the Company be under a Necessity to evacuate and abandon their *Forts, Settlements* and *Castles* in *Africa*, no Man sure will imagine we can preserve the Trade, when we are depriv'd of those Possessions, which have hitherto supported it.

May we not with equal Reason say, that if we were complaisant enough to give up *Gibraltar* to the *Spaniards*, or *French*, that our Trade to *Italy* and the *Levant* would be equally secure? It is a certain Truth, that the effectual Support and Maintenance of our *Settlements* in *Africa* is not of less Advantage to our Trade and Navigation in *America* than *Gibraltar* is to that in *Europe*. It is an uncontroverted Maxim, *That the Want of Things most evidently shews the Worth of Them*. No People have experienced the Truth of this more than the *Spaniards*, who could never be so truly sensible of the Value of *Gibraltar*, 'till it came into *British* Hands, and their former Possessions and Fortifications were turn'd against Them.

Let

Let us but suppose for a Moment, that the *Royal African Company* were stript of their *Possessions, Forts* and *Castles* in *Africa*, and that they were in the Possession of the *French*, what must be the inevitable Consequence to the Trade and Navigation of these Kingdoms? Will not every *British Planter* in *America*, and every *West-India Merchant* in *England* grant, that the *Negro Trade* on the Coast of *Africa* is the chief and fundamental Support of the *British Colonies* and *Plantations* in *America*? Should our most formidable Rivals monopolize the whole *African Trade* to Themselves, will they not naturally furnish their own *Colonies* with the best of *Negroes*, and suffer *Englishmen* to purchase their *Refuse* only; and that too at an exorbitant Rate? But supposing it were wholly in their Power, either to grant or refuse us such Permission, have we any Reason to believe they would be so gracious as to indulge us with the Liberty of purchasing any *Negroes* at all.

For when they should find Themselves in Possession of all the *Forts* and *Settlements* on the Coast, and consequently in full Possession of the whole Trade; when they should consider that the Wealth and naval Power of *Great-Britain* is, in a great Measure, owing to the extensive Commerce and Navigation to and from our *American Colonies* and *Plantations*; and that these must be totally ruin'd and undone, if unsupplied with *Negroes*; what Reason have we to believe they would suffer us to purchase a single *Negro* on the Coast of *Africa*; or that they would not take every Advantage to distress and impoverish our *British Plantations* in this most vital and essential Point? No Man sure can imagine they would suffer our *Sugar Colonies* to be

supply'd with any *Negroes*, when it is well known they take every Occasion to rival us in that valuable Trade.

Our Neighbour-Nations wisely consider their *African Trade* in the Light of a *Nursery* to their *Colonies* and *Plantations* in *America*; and as such they studiously cherish and preserve it. And if the *French* could once wholly engross the same to Themselves, how are we secure that they would not be as successful in the *Sugar*, *Tobacco* and *Rice* Trades, as they have already been in the *Indigo*? The Acquisition of one Branch of Trade, will naturally animate an active and enterprizing Nation to make further Encroachments upon their Neighbours; especially when they must sensibly experience an *Encrease* of *Seamen* and *Shipping* on their Side, while they perceive a manifest *Declension* in both on the Side of *Great Britain*.

If the Preservation and Improvement of the *British Colonies* and *Plantations* in *America*, depend upon the Preservation of the Trade to *Africa*, as They are supply'd with *Negro-Servants* only from thence, to cultivate and improve their Plantations with *Sugars*, *Tobacco*, *Rice*, *Rum*, *Cotton*, *Ginger*, &c. &c; if upon the Preservation of the Trade to *Africa* and the *West Indies*, the Consumption, as has been allow'd by the best Judges, of above One half of our Manufactures, and the Employment of above One Half of our Shipping and Navigation do depend; if the Value of *Lands* in *Britain*, do, and always must rise and fall in Proportion as our Manufactures and Navigation prosper or decline; and if the *national Revenue* must encrease or diminish, as the Trade to *Africa*, and our *Plantations* is better or worse protected and supported: If there be any Weight in these Considerations, is it not evident, that there is not a
Man

Man in this Kingdom, who, in Proportion to his Rank in the Community, does not more or less partake of the Benefit and Advantage of the *African Company's Forts and Castles* in *Africa*; and who would not be a Sufferer in Proportion, should their *Forts and Castles* be abandon'd, or fall into the Hands of any other Nation? For,

It will soon appear, Sir, that we have no Reason to think our Trade to the Coast of *Africa* can be preserved and supported, without keeping up and maintaining our *Possessions, Forts and Castles* on that Coast.

For near 300 Years past, it has been the constant Policy of all *European Nations*, who have made *New Discoveries*, and gain'd any establish'd Power and Authority in barbarous Countries, to erect and maintain *Forts and Castles*; and, in Virtue of such Possessions, to claim a Right to whole Kingdoms, and to EXCLUDE all other Nations from trading in, to, or from Them.

By these Means the *Portuguese* long enjoy'd the whole Trade to *Africa* and the *East-Indies*; the *Spaniards* claim'd and engross'd to themselves almost the whole Continent of *America*, and most of the *Islands* adjacent thereunto. By this Means also, did not the *Hollanders* become absolute Masters of all the *Spice Islands*, and now supply the whole World with them, by such Quantities, and at such Prices as they think fit?

We once shared the Trade to *India* for *Nutmegs, Cloves* and *Spice*, with the *Dutch* and *Portuguese*; but for want of due Regard and Encouragement given to the *Old East-India Company* to preserve that Branch of Trade, the *Dutch* supplanted us both, and have engross'd that valuable Trade to themselves.

About 1660 the *Dutch* also attempted to gain the *entire Possession* of the most valuable Parts of the Coast of *Africa*, and to

EXCLUDE

EXCLUDE *Great-Britain* from any Share or Interest therein, as they have done in the *Spice Trade*; and thereby brought on themselves a War with this Kingdom, in 1664. Such Resentment has the *British* Nation shew'd, when Attempts have been made to deprive them of this important Branch of Commerce.

Before the *Royal African Company* had built a sufficient Number of *Forts* and *Castles* on the *Gold Coast*, the *Dutch*, interrupted our Trade, and seized and confiscated our Ships on that Coast, and within its Dependencies. Since the Company have built and maintained a sufficient Number of *Forts* and *Castles* on the *Gold Coast*, They, and all other *British* Ships and Vessels, have traded *freely* to this Coast, and all Places dependent thereon, without Interruption or Molestation from the *Dutch*, or any other Nation.

Before the *French* got Possession of the *Forts*, in the River *Senegal*, and on the *Islands* of *Arguin* and *Goree*, on the *North Coast*, the *English* traded *freely* and *openly* to all Places on that Coast, without Obstruction. Since the *French* have been in Possession of those *Forts*, they have assum'd the Right and Authority to EXCLUDE the *British* Nation from those Parts; and do now actually take and confiscate all such *British* Ships and Vessels as venture to go thither. And can it be reasonably presum'd, that they would not take the same Liberty to EXCLUDE the *British* Nation from those Parts of the *African Coast*, where they now *freely* trade, had they once got Possession of the *Forts* and *Castles* belonging to the *Royal African Company*?

Such however is the encroaching Industry of that Nation; and such their ardent Desire, to engross the *African Trade* to Themselves, that by Virtue of one Fort in the River
Senegal,

Senegal, and another a little Distance from the same, in the Island of *Goree*, they not only claim an exclusive Right to all the Coast from *Cape Blanco* to the River *Gambia*, extending along the Shore about 400 Miles, but carry on a considerable Trade in the River *Gambia*, within Sight of the *British Fort* there; and on the *Gold Coast*, where, heretofore, they were never permitted or ever presumed to purchase a *Negro*, They have of late Years come in great Numbers, and trade at a Place called *Anamaboe*, within Sight of *Cape Coast Castle*, the principal *British Fort* on that Coast, and carry off yearly from thence Ten times more of the best *Negroes* to their own *Sugar Colonies* in *America*, than go to the *British Sugar Islands*; to the infinite Encrease of the *French Colonies*, and Detriment of our own.

And what encourages this encroaching Rival haughtily to EXCLUDE *British* Subjects from trading within several hundred Miles of their Forts, and on the other Hand to presume to Trade even within Sight of our *British Forts*, is, the extraordinary Privileges and Encouragement they receive from their Country, while the Encouragement which the *Royal African Company of England* have received from the Publick for 14 Years past, bears no Proportion to the Charges and Expences which it would necessarily require, effectually to secure the *British* Rights and Privileges against such Encroachments.

For the better supporting the *African Trade* to the *French Nation*, his most Christian Majesty has not only granted the *India Company of Paris*, the sole Trade of that Coast, from *Cape Blanco* to the *Cape of Good-Hope*, but allows them
 “ an Exemption from all Duties for Merchandize exported
 “ to

“ to *Africa*, and to the *French Islands* and *Colonies* in
 “ *America*: An Exemption from half the Custom of all
 “ Goods and Merchandize imported from *Africa*; and
 “ from half the Customs on all *Sugars*, and other Mer-
 “ chandize imported from the *French Islands* and Colo-
 “ nies, in *America*, being the Produce of the Sale of
 “ *Negroes* there: An Exemption from all Tolls of any
 “ Kind upon their Goods and Merchandize in *France*:
 “ A Bounty of Thirteen Livres to be paid out of his own
 “ Revenue for every *Negro* carry'd to the *French Islands*
 “ and *Colonies* in *America*: And a Bounty of Twenty
 “ Livres for every eight Ounces of *Gold Dust* brought
 “ into *France*.” Thus we see of what Importance the *French*
 think the *African Trade* to be to that Kingdom, and what
 Encouragement they give to the *Negro*-Trade: And is
 this Branch of less Moment to the *British* Nation?

In like Manner the States General of the *United Pro-*
vinces, for the better enabling their *West-India Company* to
 maintain their *Forts* and *Castles*, and all their Rights and
 Privileges in *Africa*, have not only granted that Com-
 pany many great Privileges and Immunities, but allow them
 these extraordinary Aids and Incomes; “ From the several
 “ Provinces of *North Holland*, *Zealand*, and *Gronningen*, a
 “ Subsidy of 38,000 Florins *per Annum*: A Duty of
 “ Three per Cent. on all Goods and Merchandize exported
 “ to, or imported from any Place between *Newfoundland*
 “ and *Cape Florida*: A Duty of Two per Cent. on Goods
 “ and Merchandize exported to, or imported from any
 “ Place on the Continent of *America*, from *Cape Florida*
 “ to the *River Oronoco*, including *Curassö*; both which are
 “ computed to amount to 100,000 Florins *per Annum*, A
 Duty

“ Duty of Five Gilders per Last, on all Ships trading to *Cuba*,
 “ *Hispaniola*, *Jamaica*, *Porto Rico*, and other *Caribee Islands*,
 “ or to any Place from the River *Oronoco* to the Streights of
 “ *Magellan*, and *La Maire*, and from thence to the
 “ Streights of *Anian*, computed at 3,000 Florins *per*
 “ *Annum* : One third part of the neat Income of the
 “ Colony at *Surinam*, computed at 10,000 Florins *per*
 “ *Annum* : The clear Profits of the Colony of *Ifacape*
 “ computed at 20,000 Florins *per Annum* : And all the
 “ Profits arising from the *Captures* and *Licences*, which
 “ they are authorized to make upon, or grant to such *Portu-*
 “ *guese* Ships as come upon the Coast, from *Lisbon* or
 “ *Brazil* for *Negroes*, valued at 100,000 Florins *per Annum*.
 “ making in the Whole 271,600 Florins, or about 25000 *l.*
 “ Sterling *per Annum, communibus annis.*”

These, Sir, are the effectual Measures taken by the
French and the *Dutch* to maintain and support their *Forts*
 and *Castles*, *Claims* and *Possessions* on the *African Coast* ;
 which encourage Them to make Inroads and Encroach-
 ments on the *British Settlements*, and interfere with the Trade
 of the *British Merchant* ; while the *Royal African Company*
 have for many Years past lain under such Discouragements,
 as have in a great Measure put it out of their Power duly
 to maintain and assert *their own and their Countrys Rights*
and Privileges, in and to the Trade of those Parts where
 their *Forts* and *Settlements* are situated.

And if the various Competitors we have to contend
 with on the *African Coast*, plume themselves on their Supe-
 riority of Encouragement, from their respective States, to what
 is granted to the *Royal African Company of England* ; and
 in Consequence thereof, take unjustifiable Liberties with

British Subjects, possess'd of much larger Settlements and having juster Claims than themselves, how can the *African Company* be expected to maintain the Balance of Interest, in Support of the *Rights* of our Merchants, without having suitable Encouragement from the Publick ?

That we must be inevitably dispossest'd of our *Forts* and *Settlements* in *Africa*, provided the *Company* is not effectually enabled by the Legislature to maintain and support them in a proper and defensible Manner, will appear from briefly reviewing the past Attempts of our Competitors to wrest this Trade out of our Hands.

When the *Dutch* in 1637 took and possess'd themselves of the strong Fortress of *St. George del Mina*, on the *Gold Coast*, and soon after of all the other *Portuguese Forts* and *Settlements* on the same Coast, they would not suffer a *British Ship* to Trade on the *African Coast*; and this not only on the *Gold Coast*, and at Places near the *Dutch Company's Forts* and *Settlements*, but they seized and confiscated *British Ships* at Places several hundred Miles distant from them, and carry'd Them to *St. George del Mina*, and there condemn'd them.

King *Charles* the II^d. being acquainted with the repeated Insults and Depredations committed upon *British Ships*, no less than Twenty having been taken by the *Dutch West-India Company* on the *African Coast*, His Majesty resolv'd to obtain Reparation for past Injuries, and effectually to secure that valuable Branch of Trade to his Subjects in future.

His Majesty therefore order'd his *Envoy* at the *Hague* to insist upon Reparation; and to convince the States he was in Earnest, at the same Time order'd a Man of War

War to be fitted out to the Coast of *Africa* commanded by Captain *Holmes*. But neither had the desir'd Effect; the States started such Difficulties, and made such trifling Prevarications and Delays, that no Satisfaction could be obtain'd for past Injuries. Whereupon Captain *Holmes* possess'd himself of a Fort near *Cape de Verde*, belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*; which so provok'd the States, that they fitted out a Squadron, under the Command of *De Ruyter*, who not only retook the Fort near *Cape de Verde*; and seized and confiscated all *British* Ships he could meet with, but took the *English* Fort at *Cormantine* and put a *Dutch* Garrison into it.

Some time before this Event, the Parliament had made Enquiry into the Obstructions and Encroachments of the *Hollanders* on our Trade, and into the Losses our Merchants had sustained thereby; which they found to amount to no less than near 800,000 *l*. Whereupon both Houses of Parliament came to this Resolution; viz. *That the Wrongs, Dishonours, and Indignities, done to his Majesty by the Subjects of the United Provinces, by invading his Rights in India, Africa, and elsewhere, and the Damages, Affronts and Injuries, done by them to our Merchants, were the greatest Obstructions of our Foreign Trade; and that the same be humbly and speedily presented to his Majesty, and that he be most humbly moved to take some speedy and effectual Course for Redress thereof, and all other of the like Nature, and for Prevention of the like in future; and that in Prosecution thereof, they would, with their Lives and Fortunes, assist His Majesty against all Opposition whatsoever.*

This Resolution being presented to his Majesty the 27th of April 1664, he was pleased to renew his Instances with

the *States* for Satisfaction so long demanded; and in an Audience of the 25th of *June* following, He told the *Dutch* Ambassador, *That it was not to be suffer'd that the Dutch West-India Company, only by the Means of a few Forts and three or four Ships, should pretend to render the Coasts of Africa inaccessible to all others, by blocking up the Havens against their Commerce, and keeping them off, and driving them from every Place.* And what availed these Remonstrances? The *States* turn'd a deaf Ear to them: The Losses of our Merchants amounted to too considerable a Sum to be easily reimbursed; and the Advantages of the Trade to *Africa*, could they have wholly monopolized and secured the same to themselves, as they aimed to do, were too important to be willingly parted with.

Instead therefore of giving the Satisfaction demanded, They made a further Attempt to become *absolute Masters* of this whole Trade: They renew'd their Insults and Depredations on the *British* Subjects with more Resolution than before, under the Conduct of their Admiral *De Ruyter*. So that His Majesty was under a Necessity, on this Occasion, of declaring War in Form, on the 2d of *February*, 1664, against the *States General of the United Provinces*.

Nothing is more evident than that the chief Views of the *Dutch* at this Time were, and for some Years preceding, had been, to EXCLUDE the *English* absolutely and entirely from the Trade to *Africa*; and to engross the same wholly to Themselves. Such was the high Estimation they set on this Trade, that, rather than consent the *English* should enjoy a Share of it *peaceably*, they chose to run the Hazard, and bear the Inconveniences of a *War with Great-Britain*.

But in Spite of all the Efforts of the *Dutch*, the *British Company* kept their Footing in *Africa*; and, by the third Article of the Treaty of Peace, concluded at *Breda*, 1667, it was mutually agreed that each Party should keep and enjoy all such *Lands, Islands, Towns, Fortresses, Places and Colonies*, which, the One had, by Force of Arms, or otherwise, taken from the other, as well during that War as before.

However, the Stipulations in this Treaty in Favour of the *then Company*, were far from being sufficient to enable Them to bear up against the Difficulties they had to contend with. They were under the Necessity of being at a very great Expence, during the War, to support their Forts; and met with no inconsiderable Losses by Captures, and otherwise at Sea, during Hostilities; that it was with the utmost Difficulty they could preserve their Possessions.

To extricate themselves from these Difficulties, they agreed, in Consideration of a certain Sum of Money to be paid by another *New Company*, intended to be establish'd, to surrender their *Charter* to the Crown, and transfer all their *Estate, Property, Interest, and Effects* in *Africa*, unto the *New Company*.

Of this His Majesty approved, and was thereupon pleased to accept of the said Surrender; and, by His *Letters Patent*, under the Great Seal of *England*, bearing Date the 27th Day of *September*, 1672, to establish and incorporate the present *Royal African Company of England*, and to grant them *All and singular, the Lands, Countries, Havens, Roads, Rivers, and other Places in Africa, from the Port of Sallee in South Barbary, to the Cape of Good Hope for the Term of 1000 Years, &c.* with such Powers and Privileges

Privileges as were then judged absolutely necessary, for enabling and encouraging them to retrieve and secure so valuable and important a Branch of Foreign Trade to this Nation.

This *New Company* set out with no larger Stock than 111,100 *l.* with which, small as it was, they apply'd themselves with all possible Vigour and Resolution to pursue the Ends of their Establishment. At this time, it must be observed, that the *Dutch West-India Company* were in Possession of the strong Fortres of *St. George del Mina*; and of the *English* Fort at *Cormantine*, then called *Fort Amsterdam*: They had likewise another, nam'd *Fort St. Anthony* at *Axim*, *Fort St. Sebastian's* on the River *Chamab*, *Fort Nassau* at *Moree*, two Leagues to Leeward of *Cape Coast*, another called *Creveceur* at *Acra*, and another called *Fort Conraadsburg* at *St. Jago*, within Cannon Shot of *St. George del Mina*: All on the *Gold Coast*, and commodious to succour each other in case of Need. The *Danes* were in Possession of one small but impregnable Fort (since called *Fort Royal*) within Gun Shot of *Cape Coast*; and another at *Acra*, to the Eastward of the *Dutch* Fort at the same Place. The *Electör of Brandenburg* (late King of *Prussia*) had one good Fort at *Cape Three-Points*, and two smaller ones at a little distance to the Eastward of the same. The *New British Company* possess'd one small Fort at *Cabo Corso*, it being the only Fort on all this Coast, which the *Dutch* had not dispossest'd the former Company of, during that War.

At this critical Point of Time, the present *Company* exerted themselves with no little Spirit and Resolution, to preserve the *African* Trade to these Kingdoms.
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They enlarged *Cape Coast Castle*, and made it ten Times larger, stronger, and more commodious than before. They built *one Fort* at *Acra*, another at *Dixcove*, a third at *Winnebah*, a fourth at *Succundee*, a fifth at *Commenda*, and rebuilt a sixth at *Anamaboe*, all on the *Gold Coast*; and three of them within Musket Shot of *Dutch Forts*. They also purchas'd *Fredericksburg*, now *Fort Royal*, of the *Danes*, without which *Cape Coast Castle* could not be so secure. They likewise built another Fort from the Ground at *Whydah*, for the Security of the *Negro Trade* at that Place.

During the Reparation and Erection of these Forts, so exasperated were the *Dutch*, that we should compel them to admit us to *share*, only, the Benefits of this Trade with themselves, that their *West-India Company* gave the *Royal African Company* all possible Opposition on the *Gold Coast*, which often broke out into desperate Hostilities; And occasioned the *British Company* to be put to an incredible Expence in purchasing the Consent and Assistance of the Natives, for making such Settlements; as also for transporting, from time to time, the necessary Supplies of *Soldiers*, *Artificers*, *Provisions*, and all other *Materials* from *England*, for such Buildings: All which were rendered still more expensive and hazardous by the long War, which ensued with *France*.

Under all these Difficulties, the present Company never ceased their Efforts to serve their Country, untill they had put the *British Interest*, on this part of the Coast of *Africa*, on an equal Foot with the *Dutch*, and much superior to that of any other Nation whatsoever.

On the North Coast, where the the least Opposition was expected, Matters did not succeed so well to the *British Company's*

Company's Desire. *The Dutch West-India Company* possess'd the Forts of *Arguin* and *Goree*; the *French Senegal Company*, establish'd in 1673, possess'd a small Fort on an Island within the Bar, in the River *Senegal*; and the *African Company of England* had one small Fort in the River *Gambia*, and another Settlement in the River *Sierraleone*.

In this Situation Affairs continued till 1677, and the Companies of each Nation traded freely to all Places on the open Coast, not in the actual Possession of any of the other, from *Cape Blanco*, to *Cape Mount*.

In 1677, and 1678, the *French* took the *Dutch Forts* on the Isles of *Arguin* and *Goree*, which were yielded to *France* by the Treaty of *Nimeguen*. In 1685, the *French King* judging the Grant to the *Senegal Company* too extensive, from *Cape Blanco*, to *Cape Good Hope*, restrain'd that Company from *Cape Blanco* to the River *Sierraleone*; and erected another Company called the *Guinea Company*, and granted them the sole Trade to and from all that part of the Coast extending from the River *Sierraleone* to the *Cape of Good Hope*. From this time the *French Trade to Africa* was carry'd on by those two distinct Companies.

The latter of these made no great Progress in their Trade untill 1702, when the *French King* encouraged them with the Contract made with *Spain*, to introduce a certain Number of *Negroes* yearly into the *Spanish West Indies*. At the Treaty of *Utrecht* this Contract being transferr'd to *Great-Britain*, that Company was soon abolish'd, and the Trade to *Africa*, within the Limits, laid open to all the Subjects of *France*: Thus it continued from 1716 to 1720.

The

The *Senegal* Company were scarcely warm in their new Possessions before they claim'd all that Part of the Coast, extending from *Cape Blanco* to the River *Gambia*, about 500 Miles in Length. In 1681, they exerted all their Strength to obstruct the *African Company's* Ships from trading along that Coast : But not being then in a Condition to contest that Point with them, they dropp'd their Pretensions for that Time.

So anxious were the *French* to engross this Trade to themselves, that in 1683, 1684 and 1685, they seized and confiscated the Ships belonging to the *Portuguese*, *Dutch* and *Prussians*. In 1685 they again resolutely renew'd their Claim against the *Royal African Company of England* ; from which Time they began to give them frequent Interruptions in their Trade, till at last a War broke out between the two Nations. Thus we find by past Experience that both the *French* and *Dutch*, who have *Forts* and *Settlements* on the Coast of *Africa*, have often hitherto unsuccessfully endeavour'd to extirpate the *English* from their Neighbourhood : And if *Britain* should now tamely give up her *Forts* and *Settlements*, have we any Colour of Reason to believe we can support our Share of the Trade, when we are depriv'd of those Possessions which Experience shews, ever have and only can uphold our Right to it ?

That *Forts* and *Settlements* on the Coast of *Africa* are indispensably necessary for the Preservation of that Trade to *British* Merchants in general will further appear by considering the Nature of it, and the Measures reasonable and necessary to be taken, in Order to encourage the Natives to maintain an Intercourse of Commerce with this Nation.

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The

The Kings of these Countries being numerous, our Rivals settled on the same Coast, have, by Experience, always found it expedient to make strict Alliances with as many of the *Negroe Princes* as they can; to stipulate and agree to protect them whenever oppressed by their neighbouring *Negroe Princes*, who may be Allies to the *British* Company, and to supply them, on such Occasions, with Arms and Ammunition: And the Natives in Return on their part, stipulate to bring down and encourage a constant Currency of Trade from the *Inland* Countries to such allied *European* Settlements, in Opposition to other Competitors who have Settlements on the same Coast.

Should *Great-Britain* therefore give up their present Footing on the *African* Coast, and consequently not have it in their Power to take the like Measures as our Rivals do, would not the very Name of an *Englishman* soon, not only become contemptible, but absolutely forgot amongst such barbarous People? For, our Rivals being possess'd of all the *Forts, Castles* and *Factories*, and their *Governors, Factors* and *Agents* constantly maintaining their Alliances with the *Inland* Natives, must not this naturally and inevitably prevent all Trade with *British* Shipping, and totally draw the Whole into the Channel of Foreign Settlements, and for ever exclude *British* Merchants from having any Trade on the same Coast?

So oft as the Natives are at War amongst themselves, which is commonly the Case of those People, and are not supported by their *European Ally* against the Enemy, will they not naturally seek that Alliance, and carry the whole Trade to that *Settlement* which is the best able to assist them? The *Negroe-Trade* depending on the effectual Protection of the
neighbouring

neighbouring Princes, can we expect to preserve this Trade without being so situated as to support them who support our Trade? But how can these Friendships and Alliances be effectually made and cemented without the Company's Agents residing on the Spot, constantly associating with the Native-Princes, and establishing Factories many hundred Miles Inland, by the means of Rivers, where none but small *Sloops* and *Canoes* can go to traffick? While our Rivals should pursue these Measures, and we neglect Them, is there the least Reason to imagine They would suffer an *Englishman* to purchase a *Negro* to carry to the *British Colonies* and *Plantations*, while those Engrossers had a *Plantation* of their own to send them to? Could we ever expect the Re-establishment of an *Affiento Contract*, whereby to supply the *Spanish West-Indies* or the *Brazils* with *Negroes*? Would not an Abolition of the present *African Company*, be an effectual Measure to deprive *Great-Britain* of all Advantages of this Nature, and to throw them for ever into the Hands of other *European Powers*?

Besides; are the *Exports* to the Coast of *Africa*, and *Imports* from thence, considered even abstractedly from the *Negro-Trade* and the Preservation of our *Colonies* in *America*, of no Consideration to *Britain*? Cast your Eye, Sir, only upon part of the Particulars, and then judge whether *British* Manufacturers in general will not be great Sufferers by the Loss of this Branch of Trade, and the *East India Company* in particular not inconsiderably so? *

D 2

As

E X P O R T S.

* *Annabasses, Arranges, Rough Amber, Brasi* of all Sorts, *Blankets, Bays, Bells, Amber Beads, Crystal Beads, Coral Beads, all other Beads, Broad Cloth, Boysadoes, Carpets, Camblets, Copper* of all Sorts, *Coral, Cotton* *Stuffs* of many Sorts, *Worsted Damasks, Druggets, Durois, Earthen Ware, Fringe,*

As therefore no Man acquainted with the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, can doubt the Importance of the *African* Branch, consider'd in its full Latitude and Extent; as we have seen the high Value our Rivals set upon this Trade, and what extraordinary Privileges and Encouragements They give to their respective Companies on this Coast; as Experience has shew'd how our Neighbours have struggled, not only to preserve but enlarge their *Forts* and *Settlements*, and wrest ours out of our Hands; as such is the Nature of this Trade, that no Nation ever has judg'd it practicable to maintain and support their Claim to it without *Forts* and *Settlements* on the Spot, the more effectually to encourage the Natives to bring Trade

Fringe, Flints, Fire Steels, Fuzees, Muskets, Carbines, Blunderbuffes, Buccaneers, Fowling Pieces, Trading Guns, Pistols, Gun-powder. Goods from the East-Indies, viz. Atlases, Atchabannies, Allejars, Allibannes, Brawls, Bafts, Bejutepauts, Bombay Stuffs, Callicoos, Carridarries, Cherconnees, Chelloes, Chillas, Chints, Coopees, Cowries, Chucklaes, Cushlaes, Cuttanees, Elatches, Ginghams, Guinea Cloths, Jamewares, Long-Cloths, Longees, Herba Longees, Silk or Phota Longees, Lemannes, Muslins, Negannepauts, Nillaes, Niconees, Pintadoes, Photabs, Poizees, Romalls, Salampores, Sattins, Seer-suckers, Tapseels, Taffaties Herba, Taffaties Silk, Tepoy's, Sousees, and many other Silks and Callicoos. Fine Hats, Felt Hats, Handkerchiefs, Hollands, Iron Bars. Wrought Iron, Knives, Lead Bars, and Lead Shot. Liquors, viz. Arrack, Brandy, Beer, Rum, Malt Spirits, Wine. Long Ells, Looking Glasses, Medicines, Paper, Padlocks, Pewter. Perpetuanoes or Ranter's. Provisions, viz. Beef, Bread, Butter, Cheese, Flower, Pork, Suet, Vinegar, Oil, Sugar, Raisins, Spices, Tobacco. Shalloons, Silesia Linnen, and all other German, Scotch and Irish Linnens, Sealing Wax, Swords of all Sorts, Hangers, Symetars, Cutlasses, Soap, Slops, Tallow. Trimming, as Lace, Buttons, Gold and Silver Thread, Mohair-Buttons, Silk, Thread. Ticking, Striped Hollands, and Striped Linnens, Welch Plains. Coats, Waistcoats, Breeches Drawers, Shirts, Shoes, Slippers, Stockings, Pukes, Wool Cards, all Coarse Woollen Cloths, &c. &c. &c.

I M P O R T S.

Gold, Bees-Wax, Elephants Teeth, Gums of various Sorts, Cotton Wool, divers Dying Woods, and Negroes or Labourers for the Plantations, &c.

Trade to their particular Factories, and give due Weight to their Alliances with them : As these are Facts incontestible, sure no Man in the Interest of his Country, will take upon him to say that this Trade can be preserved in future to *Great-Britain*, without the effectual Maintainance of the *Forts* and *Settlements* upon that Coast.

These Facts are now so notorious, that I am perswaded there is not a *British* Trader to the Coast of *Africa* in the Kingdom, but will readily grant that our Trade could not be carried on with any Security to those Parts, were the *British* *Forts* and *Settlements* in Foreign Hands.

But if it should be imagined that *Stationed Ships* would effectually support our Trade and Interest with the Natives, the Experiment has, and always must inevitably prove abortive, and the Mistake too late discover'd; for of what inland Service, on any Emergency, can they be to the Natives; What Opportunity could they have to cultivate such Good-Understanding and Alliances with them, as the *Governors*, *Factors* and *Agents* of the Company do, by travelling hundreds of Miles inland, daily associating with their *Princes* and *Chiefs*, and doing them constant Offices of Benevolence?

At our *British* Colonies on the Continent of *America*, where even there are many hundred thousands of *British* Subjects resident, *Stationed Ships* alone, tho' ten times the Number usually kept there, would little avail to support our Footing, and our Trade to those Parts, without cultivating a constant Friendship and Alliance with the *Indian Nations*. Do not the *French* pursue these Measures as a *Barrier* against the *English*? If they pursue such Policy, and we re-
ject

ject it, how can we expect to maintain the *British* Interest to as good Purpose as our Neighbours do theirs?

The Case is parallel: If the *Dutch* and the *French* do not trust the Support and Protection of their Share in the *African Trade* to *Stationed Ships* only, and we should, how could we maintain an Equality of Power and Interest on that Coast? But this Experiment was actually tried about eight Years ago on the *Gum-Coast*, and found ineffectual; for when the Government sent to that *Coast* two Men of War of superior Force to the *French* to protect the Merchants Ships there, the *French* by Virtue of *one* Fort only, and their Interest with the Natives on Shore, brought the Negroe-Traders under such Subjection, that they did not dare to carry off any Trade to the *English* Shipping; whereby fundry *British* Ships then made such ruinous Voyages, that none of late Years have ventured to Trade to those Parts with, or without Convoy.

But farther; besides the evident Impossibility of *Stationed Ships*, for answering the Purposes of securing a constant Intercourse of Trade with the Natives on Shore; would the Expence of such Ships to the Nation, by so dangerous an Experiment, bear any Proportion to that which would enable the Company to protect that Trade in general in a much better and more effectual Manner, by Means of their *Forts* and *Settlements*?

So sensible have the Legislature formerly been of the Necessity of *Forts* and *Settlements* for the Preservation of this Trade, that as often as They have taken the State of the same into Consideration, they have made the strongest Declarations thereof.

In

In 1693, the Consideration of the Trade to *Africa* being referred to a Committee, they reported their Opinion, " That *Forts* and *Castles* are necessary for carrying on " the Trade to *Africa*, &c." In 1694 the Consideration of that Trade being referr'd to a Committee, They likewise reported it as their Opinion to the House, " That " *Forts* and *Castles* are necessary for carrying on and pre- " serving the Trade to *Africa* to this Nation, &c."

In 1697, when the Trade to *Africa* was laid open by Act of Parliament, the whole Legislature declared; " That " *Forts* and *Castles* are undoubtedly necessary for the Prefer- " vation and well-carrying on the said Trade."

Upon the Expiration of the said Act, in 1712, it was again resolved, That for the preserving, better carrying on, and improving the Trade to *Africa*, it is necessary that *Forts* and *Castles* be maintained and enlarged on that Coast.

On the 26th of *March*, 1730, the House of Commons came to the following Resolutions, viz. 1. " That the " Trade to *Africa* ought always to remain free and open to " all His Majesty's Subjects." 2. " That the Trade and " Navigation to *Africa* ought never to be charged with any " Duty for the Maintenance of the *British Forts* and *Settle- " ments* belonging to the Company." 3. " That it was " necessary to keep up and maintain the *British Forts* and " *Settlements* on the Coast of *Africa*." 4. " That an " Allowance ought to be made by Parliament to " the Company to maintain and support the said *Forts* and " *Settlements*."

In Pursuance of these Resolutions, it was voted in a Com- mittee of Supply, That the Sum of 10,000*l.* be grant- ed to His Majesty to be applied towards the Maintenance

of the *British Forts and Settlements*, belonging to the *Royal African Company of England* on the Coast of *Africa*; which said Sum was paid to the Company accordingly: And upon the Company's petitioning the Honourable House of Commons every Year since, they have been pleased to grant the like Sum; which, with several considerable additional Sums, has been from time to time apply'd accordingly.

For, by Accounts taken from the Company's Books, it appears that from *December* the 31st 1729, to *December* the 31st, 1741, the Expences of maintaining their *Forts and Settlements* in *Africa*, (exclusive of Commissions, &c. paid to Agents and Factors abroad, and of the Charges of Management, Interest paid for Money, and other Contingent Expences at Home, amounting in 14 Years to upwards of 70,000 *l.*) have been no less than 203,433 *l.* 5 *s.* 10 *d.* in Sterling Money; which in an Average, amounts to 16,952 *l.* 15 *s.* 5 *d.* per *Annum*. And tho' the Books and Accounts for 1742 and 1743 are not yet come from *Africa*, so that they cannot exactly ascertain the Expences of these two last Years; yet if the same be taken in an Average with the preceding twelve Years, amounting as above, to 203,433 *l.* 5 *s.* 10 *d.* the Proportion for the said two Years will be 33,905 *l.* 10 *s.* 10 *d.* more.

But the Company have received of the Publick Money only 136,075 *l.* 2 *s.* and no more clear of Fees. Whereby it appears, that from *December* 31st 1729, to *December* the 31st 1743, the Company have expended, in support of their *Forts and Settlements* for the general Benefit of the Publick, more than they have received, upwards of the Sum of 101,000 *l.* And whether the Company have not a Right, consistent with the Principles

ciples of Justice and Equity, to have at least the above Deficiency of 101,000*l.* (which is only the *Principal Sum* exclusive of any Interest for the Surplus Moneys annually expended by them) made Good by the Publick, to enable Them to put their *Forts* and *Settlements* into a good and defensible Condition, is submitted to your impartial Judgment.

I am willing to flatter myself that You will by this Time think I have said enough in the foregoing Pages to convince every impartial Reader of the Importance of the *British Forts* and *Settlements* on the Coast of *Africa*; and of the Necessity of maintaining and supporting Them, in a better and more effectual Manner than the Company have hitherto been able to do: But as this is a Point that cannot be set in too clear and strong a Light, I hope you will not think it improper if I here take the Liberty to conclude this Subject with an Extract from a *Memorial*, which the Company laid before the *Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations*, so long ago as the Year 1726; setting forth in the Company's own Words, the Nature, Number,* Strength, Situation, Value, and Importance of the said *Forts* and *Settlements*.

The said *Memorial* bears Date the 26th of *March*, 1726, and therein the Company represent as follows, *viz.*

“ The *Royal African Company of England* having received
 “ your Commands by a Letter from Your Secretary of the
 “ 25th instant, to lay before *Your Lordships* an Account of
 “ the Nature, Number, Strength and Situation of their *Forts*
 “ and *Settlements* on the Coast of *Africa*; in Obedience
 “ thereto, and in Order to set the Nature, Value, and Im-
 E “ portance

" portance of the said Forts in a due Light, They hum-
 " bly hope *Your Lordships* will give Them leave in the first
 " Place to lay before You a short Account of the Num-
 " ber and Situation of the several *English, French, Dutch,*
 " *Danish, and Portuguese Forts and Settlements* in the same
 " Order they lay on that Coast; and Secondly a more
 " particular Account of the *Nature, Strength, and Situa-*
 " *tion of the African Company's Forts and Settlements.*

" First, as to the Number and Situation of the several
 " *Forts and Settlements* belonging to the *English, French,*
 " *Dutch, Portuguese and Danes,* They are as follows; viz.

" 1. The Northermost Settlement is that at ARGUIN
 " on the *Gum-Coast* in the Latitude of 20 Degrees North,
 " formerly belonging to the King of *Prussia,* for which in
 " the late *Queen's* Time, on Occasion of an Overture
 " made by the said King to dispose of That and another
 " small Fort at *Cape-Three-Points,* which is afterwards
 " mentioned, to this Nation, He demanded for Them
 " 200,000 Crowns; but they have since been purchased
 " of him by the *Dutch,* (as they have been informed)
 " for 30,000*l.* And afterwards taken by the *French* in
 " 1721, and now in their Possession.

" 2. The RIVER SENEGAL, in the Latitude of 16
 " Degrees North, where the *French* have several Settle-
 " ments and Plantations for a great Way up the River.

" 3. The ISLAND GOREE, a little Southward of
 " *Cape de Verde,* where the *French* are likewise settled and
 " have a strong Castle.

" 4. The RIVER GAMBIA, in the Latitude of 13
 " Degrees 40 m. North, where the *Royal African Company*
 " have a very good Fort on *James Island,* a little Way

" up

“ up from the Mouth of the said River, together with
 “ fundry *Factories* higher up, on each Side of the Same.

“ 5. CUTCHEO and BISSEO, two *Portuguese* Settle-
 “ ments lying in 12 Degrees North Latitude.

“ 6. SIERRALEONE RIVER, in the Latitude of 8
 “ Degrees 30 m. North, where the *Royal African Company*
 “ have a Fort on *Bence-Island*, a little Way up from the
 “ Mouth of the said River. *

“ 7. SHERBROE RIVER, in the Latitude of 7 De-
 “ grees North, where the *Royal African Company* had lately
 “ a Fort on *York Island*, near the Mouth of the said River ;
 “ but keeps now only a Factory there. §

“ 8. ANCOBRA, the first *European* Factory on the *Gold*
 “ Coast, belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*.

“ 9. AXIM, about one League to the Eastward of
 “ *Ancobra*, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India*
 “ *Company*.

“ 10. FREDERICKSBURG at *Cape-Three-Points*, about
 “ five Leagues to the Eastward of *Axim*, a Fort formerly
 “ belonging to the *King of Prussia* ; lately sold by him, to-
 “ gether with that at *Arguin* beforementioned, to the
 “ *Dutch* for 30,000 *l*; afterwards taken and demolished
 “ by the Natives ; and lately recovered out of their Hands
 “ at the Expence of a long and chargeable War ; and
 “ now resettling by the *Dutch West-India Company*.

“ 11. DIXCOVE, a Fort belonging to the *Royal African*
 “ *Company*, about eight Leagues Eastward of *Cape-Three-*
 “ *Points*.

E 2

“ 12. BUT-

* The Company have had no Settlement there since 1728.

§ This Factory was withdrawn before the Year 1730.

“ 12. BUTTEROE, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, about three Leagues Eastward of *Dixcove*.

“ 13. TACQUERADO, a Factory House belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, about three Leagues Eastward of *Butteroe*.

“ 14. SUCCUNDEE, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, about three Leagues Eastward of *Tacquerado*.

“ 15. SUCCUNDEE, a Fort belonging to the *Royal African Company*, within Gun-Shot of the last mention'd *Dutch Fort*.

“ 16. SHUMAH, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, about four Leagues to the Eastward of *Succundee*.

“ 17. COMMENDA, a Fort belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about five Leagues Eastward of *Shumab*.

“ 18. COMMENDA, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, within Gun Shot of the last mentioned *English Fort*.

“ 19. St. GEORGE DEL MINA, the Principal Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company* on the *Gold-Coast*, about four Leagues Eastward of *Commenda*.

“ 20. St. IAGO, a Fort on the Top of a Hill, within Gun-Shot of *St. George del Mina*, belonging to the same Company.

“ 21. CAPE-COAST-CASTLE, the principal Fort belonging to the *Royal African Company* on the *Gold Coast*, about three Leagues to the Eastward of *St. George del Mina*.

“ 22. PHIPPS's

- “ 22. PHIPPS' TOWER, built for the Defense of
 “ *Cape Coast* towards the Land.
- “ 23. FORT ROYAL, on the Top of a Hill within
 “ Gun-Shot of *Cape-Coast-Castle*, belonging to the *Royal*
 “ *African Company*.
- “ 24. QUEEN ANN'S POINT, a small Fort about a
 “ League to the Eastward of *Fort-Royal*, belonging to the
 “ *Royal African Company*.
- “ 25. MOUREA, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch-West-*
 “ *India Company*, about two Leagues to the Eastward of
 “ *Queen Ann's Point*.
- “ 26. ANNISHAN, a Factory belonging to the *Royal*
 “ *African Company*, at present withdrawn, about two Leagues
 “ and a half to the Eastward of *Mourea*.
- “ 27. ANAMABOE, * a Fort belonging to the *Royal*
 “ *African Company*, about two Leagues to the Eastward
 “ of *Annishan*.
- “ 28. AGGA, a Factory belonging to the *Royal African*
 “ *Company*, at present withdrawn, about a Mile to the East-
 “ ward of *Anamaboe*.
- “ 29. CORMANTINE, a Fort built by the *English*,
 “ and in the War 1665 taken by the *Dutch*, and now be-
 “ longing to the *Dutch West-India Company*, about two
 “ Leagues to the Eastward of *Anamaboe*.
- “ 30. TANTUMQUERRY, a Fort belonging to the
 “ *Royal African Company*, about seven Leagues to the
 “ Eastward of *Cormantine*.
- “ 31. APONG, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-*
 “ *India Company*, about three Leagues to the Eastward of
 “ *Tantumquerry*.
- “ 32. WIN-

*This Fort was relinquish'd before 1730, but is necessary to be resettled again.

“ 32. WINNEBAH, a Fort belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about five Leagues to the Eastward of *Apong*.

“ 33. BARRACOE, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, about six Leagues to the Eastward of *Winnebah*.

“ 34. SHIDOE, a Factory belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about four Leagues to the Eastward of *Barracoe*, now withdrawn.

“ 35. ACRA, a Fort belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about six Leagues to the Eastward of *Shidoe*.

“ 36. ACRA, a Fort belonging to the *Dutch West-India Company*, within Gun-Shot of the last mentioned *English Fort*.

“ 37. ACRA, a Fort belonging to the King of *Denmark*, about two Miles to the Eastward of the *Dutch Fort*.

“ 38. ALLAMPO, a Factory belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about five Leagues to the Eastward of *Acra*, at present withdrawn. *

“ 39. QUITTAH, a Factory belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about fifteen Leagues to the Eastward of *Allampo*.

“ 40. WHYDAH, a Place where the *English* and *Dutch* only were allow'd to Trade formerly ; for which Reason the *Royal African Company* built, and have still kept up and maintain'd a Fort there, called *William's Fort* ; but some Years since, the *French* obtained leave to build a Fort at the same Place ; and it is now through the Cunning
“ of

* The Company instead of resettling this Factory have lately settled one at Prampram nearer to the River Volta.

“ of the Natives made a Free-Port for all Nations to resort to ; the Consequence whereof is, that Negroes, which were purchased there when the *African Company* first settled among them, for about fifty Shillings or three Pounds *per Head*, are now advanced to Twenty Pounds *per Head* first Cost. This Place lies about twenty Leagues to the Eastward of *Quittab*.

“ 41. JACQUIN, a Factory belonging to the *Royal African Company*, about three Leagues to the Eastward of *Whydab* Road ; at present withdrawn.

“ 42. CABENDA, a Fort on the Coast of *Angoy* in the Latitude of 5 Degrees South, built by the *Royal African Company* in the Year 1721, and taken, plunder'd, and destroy'd by the *Portuguese* in the Month of *October* 1723.

“ 43. LOANGO St. PAUL's, in the Latitude of 10 Degrees South, where the *Portuguese* have several Forts and Settlements, and a large City ; and thereby carry on a very great and advantageous Inland Trade for some hundreds of Miles.

“ From this general Account, *Your Lordships* will perceive the high Value other Nations set upon the Trade to *Africa*, and with what Care, Industry and Expence They have laboured to gain and secure to Themselves a Share therein. And that *Your Lordships* may be more particularly apprized of the Part which the said *Royal African Company* have likewise taken in this general Struggle ; they humbly beg leave in the second Place to lay before you the following more particular Account of the *Royal African Company's* Forts and Settlements on the Coast of *Africa*.

“ I. CAPE-COAST-CASTLE, for which the present Company paid their Predecessors 34000 l ; situated
“ about

“ about the Middle of the *Gold Coast*. The Fortifications
 “ consist of Outworks, Platforms, and Bastions, and have
 “ been enlarged with new Buildings, and made regular as
 “ well as ten times larger and stronger by the present
 “ Company, with Stone, Brick, Tiles, Lime and Tarras;
 “ and is a Security for all Ships in the Road; was many
 “ Years doing; having Apartments for the *Director-General*,
 “ *Chief-Merchants*, *Chaplain*, *Factors*, *Writers*, *Surgeons*,
 “ *Artificers*, and *Soldiers*; Magazines, Ware-houses, Store-
 “ houses, Granaries, Guard Rooms, Two large Tanks
 “ or Cisterns, built with Brick and Tarras sent from *England*,
 “ and holding about 200 Tons, Repositories to lodge
 “ one thousand Negroes, and Vaults for Rum, Work-
 “ houses for Smiths, Armourers, Coopers and Carpenters;
 “ Fifty-seven great Guns, Small Arms, Blunderbusses, Buc-
 “ caneer Guns, Pistols, Cartouch Boxes, Swords and Cut-
 “ lasses, Ammunition for Great Guns and small Arms,
 “ Stores and Tools for Brick-makers, Bricklayers, Smiths,
 “ Carpenters, Coopers, Surgeons, Armourers, Gunners,
 “ and Gardners; Small Vessels, Pinnaces, Canoes and
 “ Men answerable attending on the Castle and Garrison, and
 “ for fetching and carrying Materials for Building, and
 “ Stores to and from the Out-Forts. This Castle is situ-
 “ ated in *Fetue*, the Residence of the Company's *Director-*
 “ *General*, who manages their Trade and Alliances with the
 “ several Kingdoms on the *Gold Coast*, and opens a Trade
 “ to *Fetue*, *Saboe*, *Cabestera*, *Arkania*, *Cussera*, *Dankera*, and
 “ *Ashantee*; And is a Repository of Goods for Supply of
 “ all the Factories: with Ponds and Canals of Fresh Water,
 “ and Gardens of a large Extent, producing all Necessaries
 “ for the Castle and Shipping, as *Plantaines*, *Bonanoes*, *Pine*
 “ *Apples*,

“ Apples, Potatoes, Yams, Corn, Cokworts, Peas, Beans,
“ Cabbages, and all other *European* Refreshments.

“ II. PHIPPS' TOWER, built for the Defence of
“ the Negroe Town of *Cape Coast* against any Inland
“ Enemy.

“ III. FORT ROYAL, bought of the *Danes* by the
“ present Company for 4,597^l; and Assistant to the De-
“ fence and Security of *Cape Coast*, and the Ships in the
“ Road.

“ IV. QUEEN ANNS POINT, built for the Secu-
“ rity of *Cape Coast Castle*, and for purchasing Corn, Negroes
“ and Gold.

“ V. ANNAMABOE FORT, built by the present Com-
“ pany. The Fortification consists of *Flankers*, *Out-works*,
“ *Lodging Rooms* and *Apartments* for the *Chief*, *Factor*,
“ *Writers* and *Soldiers*; *Magazines* and *Store-houses*, *Ten*
“ *great Guns*, *Small Arms*, *Blunderbusses*, &c. *Ammunition* for
“ *Great Guns* and *Small Arms*, *Canoes*, &c. attending the
“ Building and Garrison; a large *Tank* or *Cistern* made with
“ *Brick* and *Tarras* sent from *England*, with a *Negroe-House*
“ for 150 *Negroes*. This Fort is situated in the *Fanteen's*
“ *Country*, and opens a Trade to *Fanteen*, *Braman*, *Acrong*,
“ *Akim*, *Cabestras* and *Arcania* for Gold, Corn, Palm Oil,
“ and *Negroes*. *

“ VI. TANTUMQUERRY FORT, built lately § by
“ the present Company, with *Apartments* for the *Chief*
F “ *Factors*,

* This Fort was relinquish'd before 1730, but is necessary to be re-
settled again, as before observed.

§ This Fort was built before the Year 1726.

“ *Factors, Writers, and Soldiers*; a *Magazine*, and *Guard Room*, a *Tank*, or large *Cistern* made with *Brick* and
 “ *Tarras* sent from *England*, a *Negroe-House* for 50 *Negroes*, six great *Guns*, *Small Arms*, *Cutlasses* and *Ammunition* for great *Guns* and *small Arms*. This *Fort*
 “ stands in the *Acrong* Country, and opens a *Trade* to
 “ *Fanteen, Akim, and Anguina* for *Gold, Negroes* and
 “ *Corn*.

“ VII. WINNEBAH FORT, built by the present
 “ Company. The *Fortifications* Four *Bastions, Out-Works, Apartments* for the *Chief, Factor, Writers* and *Soldiers*;
 “ *Magazines* and *Guard Rooms*, a *Tank*, made with *Brick*
 “ and *Tarras*, sent from *England*, a *Negroe-House* for 100
 “ *Negroes*, fifteen great *Guns*, *Small Arms*, *Cutlasses* and
 “ *Ammunition* for the great *Guns* and *Small Arms*. This
 “ *Fort* stands in the Country of *Anguina*, and opens a *Trade*
 “ to *Akim* for *Gold* and *Negroes*, and has a *River* of fresh
 “ *Water* to supply the *Ships*, also *Timber* and *Oyster-shells*
 “ for repairing the *Forts*, and a little to the *Westward* is
 “ a *Hill* thought to have *Gold-Mines*.

“ VIII. ACRA FORT, built by the present Com-
 “ pany. The *Castle* is four *Square*, has a *Tower, Bastions,*
 “ and *Out-Works, Apartments* for the *Chief, Factor, Writers*
 “ and *Soldiers*: *Magazines, Guard Rooms*, and has a *Tank*,
 “ made with *Brick* and *Tarras* sent from *England*, a *Negroe-House* for 150 *Negroes*, 30 great *Guns, small Arms, Blunderbusses*, and *Ammunition* for great *Guns*, and *small Arms*, and *Stores* for *Artificers*. This *Fort* stands in the
 “ Kingdom of *Acra*, and opens a *Trade* to *Quambo, Akim,*
 “ and *Aquarwoa*, for *Gold, Negroes, Elephant's Teeth* and
 “ *Salt*.

“ IX. WIL-

“ IX. WILLIAMS-FORT at *Whydab*, built by the
 “ present Company, and hath *Flat-Forms*, *Parades*, *Out-*
 “ *Works*, a *Moat* round, and Apartments for the *Chief*,
 “ *Factors*, *Writers*, *Surgeon*, *Artificers* and *Soldiers*; *Ma-*
 “ *gazines*, *Store-houses*, a *Guard Room*, a *Negroe-house*, 30
 “ great Guns, small Arms and Ammunition for great Guns,
 “ and small Arms, and Stores for Artificers; and is situ-
 “ ated in the Kingdom of *Whydab*.

“ X. COMMENDA FORT, built by the present
 “ Company at very great Expence, maugre all the In-
 “ terest and Opposition of the *Dutch West-India Com-*
 “ *pany*: The Fortification is *four Square*, with four
 “ *Bastions* and a *Tower*; and containing Lodging and
 “ Apartments for the *Chief*, *Factors*, *Writers* and *Soldi-*
 “ *ers*; *Magazines*, *Store-houses*, a *Tank*, or large *Cistern*
 “ made with *Brick* and *Tarras* sent from *England*; and
 “ a *Negroe-house* for 150 *Negroes*; 26 great Guns, with
 “ small Arms, Stores and Ammunition for great Guns
 “ and small Arms. This Fort stands in the Kingdom
 “ of *Aquasoe*, and opens a Trade to the Kingdom of
 “ *Cuffero's*, *Dankaries*, *Asbantees*, *Arkania*, *Acqua*, and
 “ *Abrambo*, for *Gold*, *Negroes*, *Teeth*, and *Palm Oil*.

“ XI. SUCCUNDEE FORT, built by the present
 “ Company in the *Antee* Country, near the *Adooms*, and
 “ near a *Dutch Fort*; once taken and destroy'd by *Ne-*
 “ *groes*, hired by the *Dutch West-India Company*, and the
 “ rebuilding thereof afterwards much interrupted by the
 “ same Interest. But since rebuilt, fortify'd and made
 “ larger and stronger than it was at first; has 20 great
 “ Guns, small Arms, Stores, and also lodging Rooms and

“ Apartments for the *Chief, Factors, Writers, and Soldiers*;
 “ Magazines and Store-houses with a *Tank* for Water, made
 “ with Brick and Tarras sent from *England*, and a *Negroe-*
 “ *house* for 100 *Negroes*.

“ XII. DIXCOVE FORT, built by the present Com-
 “ pany, and is situated in the *Antee* Country; the For-
 “ tification being four square, has four Bastions, with 19
 “ great Guns, small Arms, and Stores; also Lodgings and
 “ Apartments for the *Chief, Factors, Writers, Soldiers,*
 “ and *Artificers*; Magazines and Storehouses; and opens a
 “ Trade to the several Kingdoms of *Axim, Awawee, War-*
 “ *saw, Dawakray, and Ashantee, Inland Countries, for*
 “ *Gold, Elephant's Teeth, Negroes, and Corn*; and *furnishes*
 “ *Timber* for the Repair of the other Forts, and Ships,
 “ and *Water* for Shipping and *Lime Stone*, and is a Place
 “ for careening small Vessels, has a *Tank* or large Cistern,
 “ made with Brick and Tarras sent from *England*, for
 “ holding *fresh Water*: and a *Negroe-house* to hold 100
 “ *Negroes*.

“ XIII. JAMES FORT and ISLAND in the River
 “ *Gambia*, on the North Coast; the Island walled round,
 “ Outworks, great Guns, small Arms, and Stores, former-
 “ ly mounted with 90, now with 31 great Guns, with
 “ several Warehouses, Rooms for the *Governor, Factors,*
 “ *Writers, Officers, Artificers, Soldiers, and Castle Slaves*;
 “ Workhouses for Smiths, and other Artificers, Maga-
 “ zines, and Storehouses, and a *Negroe-house* for 200
 “ *Negroes*.

“ XIV. BENICE

" XIV. BENICE ISLAND, * and the *Island of Tassa* on
 " the River *Sierraleone* ; on the first was a Castle forti-
 " fied, which in the late War was plundered by the
 " *French* ; but the Company have lately resettled the same ;
 " it has 50 great Guns, small Arms, Stores, and also
 " Lodging Rooms and Apartments for the *Chief, Factors,*
 " *Writers, Soldiers, Artificers,* and *Castle Slaves* ; Maga-
 " zines and Storehouses, and a *Negro-house* for 100
 " *Negroes.*

" XV. SHERBRO, on <i>York-Island</i>	}	Seven Factory- Houses for pur- chasing <i>Redwood,</i> <i>Negroes, Gold</i> and <i>Corn,</i> which the Company settle or withdraw as They see Occasion.
on the North Coast		
" ANNISHAM	}	on the Gold Coast.
" AGGA		
" SHIDOE and		
" ALLAMPO	}	under the Direc- tion of <i>Whydah</i>
" QUITTAH		
" JACQUIN		

" *My Lords,*

" After so particular a Detail of the *Number, Nature,*
 " *Strength,* and *Situation* of the *Royal African Company's*
 " *Forts* and *Settlements* on the *Coast of Africa* ; *Your*
 " *Lordships* will easily judge of the extraordinary Charge,
 " which of *Necessity* must arise in the erecting and pre-
 " serving such remote Buildings and Fortifications, by
 " sending from hence *Bricks, Tiles, Tarras, Lead, Iron-*
 " *Work, Boards, Timber* ; and all other *Stores, Tools* and
 " *Materials,* and in contracting with, hiring and transport-
 " ing, *Soldiers, Carpenters, Smiths, Bricklayers, Masons,*
 " *Armourers,*

* The Company have had no Settlement there since 1728.

“ *Armourers, Brick-makers, Coopers, Sawyers,* and various
 “ other *Artificers* ;* and from time to time supplying and
 “ recruiting the same, as well by Reason of the Insults
 “ and Losses, during the War first with *Holland* ; and
 “ then twice with *France* ; As also the hiring and Wear
 “ and Tear of Vessels, and often keeping Ships of Force
 “ upon Demurrage, for the Assistance and Protection of
 “ such Undertakings ; to which may be added the
 “ great Cost and Charges of obtaining Grants and Agree-
 “ ments, and making and supporting Alliances with
 “ the several *Kings, Queens,* and great Men of the Coun-
 “ try, as well in order to make *Settlements* and build
 “ *Forts*, as to defend the Company against the sinister
 “ and undermining Designs of other *European* Compe-
 “ titors in that Country. So that upon the Whole the
 “ said Company humbly hope *Your Lordships* will agree,
 “ if they were to part with their Right and Property
 “ in their said *Forts* and *Settlements*, either to the Crown,
 “ or any other Society or Body of Men, and to value
 “ Them only according to what they have actually cost
 “ Them, They might justly set a very great Price upon
 “ them.”

But were these *Forts* and *Settlements*, Sir, to be esti-
 mated according to their Usefulness and Importance to
 the *British* Nation, who will take upon himself to say,
 how great the Value may be ? Were they to be valued
 only according to what they have cost the Company
 from 1697, when the Trade was laid open, to the pre-
 sent Time, the Company can make appear, it will a-
 mount to no less a Principal Sum, exclusive of all
 Money

* And above all, in *Paying and Maintaining them There.*

Money received of the Publick, than 607,505 *l.* 4 *s.* 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. *

But if we take into Consideration, as I am persuaded you will think just and reasonable, the Interest of the *annual Surplus Moneys* taken in an Average from 1697 to 1743, being 46 Years, it will amount to a much more considerable Sum. For 607,505 *l.* divided by 46 will give the Sum of 13,206 *l. per Annum*; which the Company have actually advanced one Year with another more than They have received, since the *African Trade* has been laid open: And if *Interest* be reckoned on the said *annual Surplus Monies*, at so low a Rate only as that of 4 *per Cent. per Annum*, from 1697, when Money has been of considerably more Value, it will amount to the Sum of 1,675,451 *l.* Sterling. And this without taking into the Account the Prime Cost, or any Interest thereon, of the *Forts and Settlements*

Received of the Publick Money.		Expended on Forts and Settlements.	
By Ten-per-Cent. Duty from 1697 to 1712.	} 73,758 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> $\frac{2}{3}$	From 1697 to 1712.	} 280,000 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>
By Parliamentary Allowance from 1730 to 1743.		From 1712 to 1729.	
	} 136,075 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>	From 1729 to 1743.	} 237,338 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
	209,833 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> $\frac{1}{2}$		817,338 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
* Balance expended more than received from 1697 to 1743.	} 607,505 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> $\frac{1}{2}$		
	817,338 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>		

ments, purchas'd of the Old Company, the Expences of building new Ones and repairing the Old, as in the *Memorial* before taken Notice of.

From the foregoing Account, Sir, You will easily observe the Company have not increased the Number of their *Forts* and *Settlements* in *Africa* wantonly and at Random; but upon mature Deliberation; and in order to keep Pace with other Rivals; and to prevent the Loss of a due Balance of Power and Interest among the Natives in that remote part of the World. This was the first and principal Object of their Care; to accomplish this, they spared no Cost or Expences; even before they received any Encouragement from the Publick. And though the Allowance lately made by Parliament bears no Proportion to the Charges and Expences, which the Company have been at in purchasing and erecting so many Forts and Settlements for the Protection and Security of this Trade against the many Dangers it was expos'd to; though the said Allowance has come far short of what the Company has since expended in keeping and maintaining them; I say, though these are Facts, which can admit of no Dispute; yet so ready and willing have the Company been to admit all their Fellow-Subjects to share with them in the Benefits and Advantages, which they had thus secured to their Country; that immediately, upon the first 10,000*l.* being granted, they sent Instructions to all their Servants in *Africa* to the Effect following, *viz.* " You are to treat such *British* Traders
 " as may apply to You, with all Friendship and Civility;
 " and in Case of their being in any sort of Distress
 " whilst on the Coast, you are to give them all the
 " Assistance, Protection and Relief you can. And if they
 " have

“ have any Goods left after they have finished their Trade
 “ on the Coast, which They would chuse to leave with you
 “ till they return, rather than carry them round about, by
 “ the Way of ~~the~~ *West-Indies* and home again, you are to
 “ receive them into our Warehouses, and there to keep
 “ them safe, and to take the same Care of them, as you do
 “ of the Company’s Goods *Gratis*.” And the like In-
 structions were again repeated no longer ago than the Year
 1741, viz. “ You are to treat all such *British* private
 “ Traders as may apply to you, with all Friendship and
 “ Civility; and in Case of their being in any sort of Dis-
 tress whilst on the Coast, you are to give them all the
 “ Assistance, Protection and Relief you can; and in Case
 “ any of them should incline to trade with you for *Negroes*,
 “ and to pay for them in such Goods and Merchandize
 “ as may be in Demand at that Time on the Coast,
 “ and which you may want in order to assort the Com-
 “ pany’s Warehouses, it is left to you to agree and deal
 “ with them upon such Terms as you shall jointly judge
 “ most for the Advantage of the Company, *With this ex-*
 “ *press Proviso, That you do not take or receive any Goods or*
 “ *Merchandize whatsoever, from any Person or Persons what-*
 “ *soever, but such only as you shall Pay for in Negroes, be-*
 “ *fore the Departure of such Person or Persons from the*
 “ *Coast.*”

It might look too much like Vanity and Ostentation to
 enumerate at large the many *Letters* and *Certificates*, which
 the Company have received within the Compass of 14 Years
 last past, setting forth the several Services which They have
 done to private Traders on the Coast of *Africa*, by *saving*
their Goods when their Ships have been lost; by protecting

them against the Insults and exorbitant Demands of the Natives; and by furnishing them with Wood, Water, and other Necessaries, &c. when ever in Distress: As this, I say Sir, would appear ostentatious, and swell this Letter to too great a Bulk to obtain your Perusal, I shall content myself with only mentioning a recent Instance: viz. Upon some Spanish Privateers coming down last Year upon the Gold Coast, the Company's Agents at Cape-Coast-Castle, not only secured and protected such Ships and private Traders, with their Goods, Merchandize and Negroes as applied to them against those Privateers; but likewise took Care of such Ship's Crews, as the Spaniards had taken before They came down among the Forts, and afterwards turned ashore among the Natives, and fitted out one of the Company's own Vessels with Provisions and all other Necessaries for the Voyage, and then dispatched Her with them directly home to Great-Britain.

Having thus laid before You, Sir, the manifest Importance of the *British Forts and Settlements in Africa* to this trading Nation; and the indispensable Necessity of their being *effectually maintained and supported*, I shall only beg leave to trespass on your Patience by offering a few Remarks more to your Consideration, and then conclude.

As to the Expence necessary to maintain the Company's *Fortes and Settlements* so as duely to support the *British Interest in Africa*, may They not reasonably hope that the Guardians of our Liberties and Trade will make them such an Allowance as shall be equivalent at least to those extraordinary Encouragements and Privileges, we have before seen, our Rivals give to their respective Companies on the same Coast? How can our *African Company* with less Encouragement maintain

maintain their Right, and prevent the *French* from trading at *Anamaboe*, and other Parts of the Coast, from whence they furnish their Plantations with Plenty of the choicest *Negroes*? Can it be imagined that so inconsiderable an Allowance, or even double the Sum which has been hitherto given Them, will enable the Company to keep the *French* from trading within Sight of *Cape-Coast-Castle* itself, while they will not suffer a *British* Vessel to come within hundreds of Miles of the least of their *Settlements*?

Tho' the Company have expended since 1730, 17,000 *l.* per Annum (exclusive of 70,000 *l.* more, in 14 Years for other Services, as before intimated;) yet they have not, *with all this Expence*, been able duely to support and extend this valuable Branch of Trade near to the Degree it is capable of. What Sum therefore ought to be allowed the Company to answer those desirable Ends, I will not take upon me to suggest; That must be submitted to the Wisdom of Parliament.

But supposing the Parliamentary Allowance was to be *Thirty Thousand Pounds* a Year or more; what is that in Comparison to the Advantages the Nation will reap by it? Or what is that in Comparison to the large Sums allowed for the Protection and Defence of other Places of far less Importance to this Nation? Are not the Garrisons of *Annapolis-Royal* and *Placentia* maintained for the Protection of *New-England* and the *Fisheries*? Are not *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahone* supported for the Security and Protection of our Trade to the *Mediterranean*? Tho' *Jamaica*, the *Leeward Islands*, *New-York*, *Bermudas* and *Providence* are establish'd Governments, and have Power to raise Money within Themselves for their own Protection and Defence; yet does

not the Parliament grant considerable Sums every Year for their Encouragement and Protection?

If then the Parliament thinks it fit and reasonable to be at a considerable Expence for the Protection of several *particular Colonies* and Branches of Trade, may not the Company far more reasonably expect effectual Support to enable them to preserve the *African Trade* on which the very *Being* of *All our Colonies and Plantations* so greatly depends? And consequently, on which, more, I may presume to say, depends than upon all the other Branches of our *Foreign Trade* put together.

Permit me then to ask you, Sir, If the Nation in general reaps such immense Benefit and Advantage by the Trade to *Africa*, is it not most reasonable that the NATION IN GENERAL should be at the whole Charge of protecting, and transmitting the same secure to Posterity?

If all private Traders to *Africa* ought to be considered in no other Light, but as *Carriers* to our Plantations; and that at the Hazard of their own private Fortunes; would it not be highly unreasonable to think of laying them, when employed so much for the *general Interest* of the Nation, under *any Sort of Discouragement* whatever?

But this, Sir, is not all: Be the Sum the Parliament shall grant for this Service as great as it will; I will venture to maintain that, the greater it is, the more will the Nation be Gainers thereby. Have the *French* surprisngly improved and encreased their *Sugar Colonies* of late Years? It is too well known they have. Have they not beat us out of the *Sugar Trade* in almost all the Markets of *Europe*? Nothing is more certain. But how, and by what Means have they, who came so late into this Trade, been so successful,

cessful, and able not only to rival us therein, but even almost absolutely to beat us quite out of it? Not only, Sir, by their allowing *Bounties*, instead of laying *Duties* upon the Products of their Plantations, but chiefly by our great and inexcusable Neglect of the Trade to *Africa* on the one Hand, and the tender Care, we see, they have taken on the other to cherish and encourage it; and thereby to have their Plantations *plentifully supplied with Negroes*.

Had the Nature and Importance of this Trade been duly entered into and considered, and proper Measures taken in Time, this Nation might have long since had the whole *Negroe-Trade* in their own Hands; and in Consequence thereof, might not *Great-Britain* easily have set what Bounds She pleased to the *French Colonies* and *Plantations*? Would not this have, in a great Measure, prevented the Encrease of their Seamen and *Naval Power*? And, to lay the Axe to the Root of the Tree, what can more effectually answer so desirable an End, as a vigorous Protection of the *African Trade*, and enabling the Company to maintain the *British* Interests, Rights and Privileges against all their Insults and Encroachments?

What has been the true Cause that these Measures have not heretofore taken Place to prevent the Evils we at present labour under? To this I shall ingenuously answer. While the Company vainly contended on the one hand to *exclude* all the Rest of their *Fellow-Subjects* from this Trade; and while the *Private Traders* on the other, in the Heat of their Opposition, stuck at Nothing to run down the Company, no Body amongst us studied to reconcile and harmonize such jarring Interests; and therefore the fatal Consequence has been, as it always will be upon the like
like

like Occasions, that the *French*, our common Rival and Enemy, have profited by our *unnatural Divisions*; in so much that from the *Gold Coast* only, where They have no Right to Trade at all, they daily furnish their Plantations with Ten Negroes at least to one that is carried to the *British Plantations*.

And now, Sir, You will naturally enquire what Measures ought *Great-Britain* to take effectually to prevent these Consequences in future? To this I shall give You an Answer that, I humbly conceive, will have due Weight with every candid and impartial Judge.

The Coast of *Africa* is of a very large Extent, and opens a Communication with many rich and populous Inland Countries; and consequently there is Room enough for the *Company*, and for the *Private Traders* too, to enlarge their Trade there, in what Manner, and to what Degree they please.

The Company, by the Situation of their *Forts*, and by the Means of navigable Rivers, will naturally have it more in their Power to open and extend the Trade to the remotest *Inland Parts* of *Africa*, and find a Vent and Consumption for larger Quantities of *British* Manufactures, and thereby to bring down greater Quantities of *Negroes* to the Sea-Coast than can be easily imagined: And the *Private Traders* are better able to supply our Plantations with *Negroes*; because they carry on a constant Intercourse of General Trade with the *British* Plantations, and have settled Correspondence there with Relations, Friends, and Partners, who will be more careful to do Them Justice, as well as more punctual in making Returns than any Agents appointed by the Company have been for their Account: As the Private Traders
are

are thus able to prosecute this Branch of the Trade *from Africa to the Plantations*, with greater Advantage than the Company, let the *Company* and *Private Traders* go hand in hand ; let each Party vigorously apply Themselves to those Branches of the Trade, which suits them best ; and let both heartily and unanimously join in all proper Measures for putting a Stop to the Encroachments of all other *Intruders* upon the *British* Rights and Privileges on the Coast of *Africa* : I say, Sir, let all the several Parties concerned, steadily pursue these Measures ; and then, I will venture to prophesie, that whatever Sum or Sums of Money the *Parliament*, in their great Wisdom, shall think fit to give the Company to enable them effectually to maintain and support their *Forts* and *Settlements* ; it will be like the Seed that fell upon good Ground ; it may be made to return from Some Places *Fifty*, and from Others an *hundred-fold*.

I am,

S I R,

Your most Obedient,

and most humble Servant.

